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Westly Issues Statement on Governor's Budget

SACRAMENTO – California State Controller Steve Westly released the following statement regarding the Governor's proposed 2005-2006 State Budget:

"I'm deeply concerned about the proposed cuts to schools, health care and transportation – reductions that will hurt Californians now and threaten our competitiveness long-term.

"We urgently need the Governor to start working together with the Legislature in a bipartisan manner to find common ground.

"We don't need more partisan bickering – we need more creative thinking, and less creative accounting.

"This year, Californians have a chance to help get the state's financial house in order – by taking advantage of tax amnesty, which starts Feb. 1. People who step forward and pay what they owe can help forestall the kind of cuts that are now on the table."

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